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Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Group Art Unit 3731
Washington, D.C. 20231 on 17 Oct 2002
Cecily Anne Snyder, Reg. No. 37,448

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: James F. Zucherman	Group Art Unit: 3731
Serial No.: 09/684,017	Examiner: Julian W. Woo
Confirmation No.: 9622	
Filing Date: 08 Jan 2001	
Title: SPINE DISTRACTION IMPLANT AND METHOD	

**RESPONSE A
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Group Art Unit 3731
Washington, DC 20231

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Dear Sir:

This **RESPONSE A** is in reply to the Office Action mailed 19 July 2002 (Paper No. 11) for which a response is due 19 October 2002. No extension of time is required for a timely response.

Claims 90-108, 112 and 113 are pending after entry of the amendments in this Response.

AMENDMENTS

Prior to examination of this application on the merits, please amend the application as follows: